SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE : It is not my Government ... (*Interruptions*) ... It is not his Government ... (*Interruptions*) ... People are dying ... (*Interruptions*)... Hon. Members are raising this issue repeatedly ... (*Interruptions*) ... What is your reply ? ... (*Interruptions*) ...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU : In fact, even before the Hon. Members expressed this concern, I, myself as a Minister, had expressed this concern... (*Interruptions*)... You please note that I have not blamed any Government ... (*Interruptions*)... I have not blamed any Government ... (*Interruptions*)... I have not blamed any Government ... (*Interruptions*)... We, as a Parliament ... (*Interruptions*)...

SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE : I am not blaming any one ... (*Interruptions*)... As politicians, are we not answerable to the people ? (*Interruptions*)... What is your reaction ? ... (*Interruptions*) ...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Package for Economic Development of NER

*525. SHRI NAGENDRA NATH OJHA :
SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 3750 given in the Rajya Sabha on 19th April, 2001 and state the progress made in the implementation of each of the 28 items included in the agenda for Socio-Economic Development of North-Eastern States and Sikkim announced by the Prime Minister on 22nd January, 2000, at Shillong ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI) : A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Present status of items covered under Agenda for Socio-Economic Development of North Eastern States and Sikkim

The present status of 28 items covered under Agenda for Socio- Economic Development of North Eastern States and Sikkim is tabulated below :—

S.No.	Item	Status
1	2	3
1.	Provision of Rs. 500 crore for Rural Infrastructure	Schemes for Rs. 877.13 crore were sanctioned till 31-3-2001 and amount

1	2	3
	Development Fund (RIDF) for North East and Sikkim	disbursed was Rs. 296.01 crore.
2.	Provision of banking facilities at all border trading points within one year.	35 bank branches are functioning at 27 Border Trading Points.
3.	Disbursing of at least Rs. 50 crore per annum by North East Development Finance Corporation (NEDFC)	North East Development Finance Corporation (NEDFC) has disbursed Rs. 50.46 crore in 2000-01 as against target of Rs. 50.00 crore.
4.	Setting of an Export Development Fund (EDF) with an initial cost of Rs. 5 crore and work out the modalities for operation.	Rs. 5 crore from the Non-lapsable Central Pool of Resources have been released as initial corpus of Export Development Scheme.
5.	Development of four border township of Moreh (Manipur), Sokhawther (Mizoram), Dawki (Meghalaya) and Suterkhandi (Assam) in two years at a cost of Rs. 20 crore.	Action Plan has been prepared to develop four border towns (Moreh in Manipur, Sokhawther in Mizoram, Dawki in Meghalaya and Suterkhandi in Assam) in a period of two years at a total cost of Rs. 36.32 crore.
6.	Setting up of an Empowered Committee to Process of the recommendations of Inter-Ministerial Task Force on border trade.	An Empowered Committee under the Chairmanship of Commerce Secretary has been constituted on 28-3-2000 to examine and process the recommendations of the Task Force.
7.	Upgradation of North Eastern Indira Gandhi	Government has approved the proposal to upgrade North Eastern Indira Gandhi

1	2	3
	Regional Institute of Health and Medical Sciences in Shillong at a cost of Rs. 422.60 crore.	Regional Institute of Health & Medical Sciences (NEIGRIHMS) at Shillong at a cost of Rs. 422.60 crore, on 7-2-2001
8.	Setting up of a Central University in Mizoram. Passing of a Bill by Lok Sabha and development of infrastructure at a cost of Rs. 25 crore for the University.	The Bill for establishment of University of Mizoram has been passed by the Parliament and assented to by the President on 25-4-2000.
9.	Doubling of number of Industrial Training Institutes and the trainees for imparting training in new trades in the next 3 years with an outlay of Rs. 100 crore.	Ministry of Labour had prepared an action plan to increase capacity of ITIs and open 22 new ITIs in the NE region. Government has approved the Scheme on 20-3-2001.
10.	Expansion of the list of items of expenditure incurred by Police eligible for reimbursement, which would include 50% of POL costs, village guards, village defence committees, and home guards.	Government approved the proposal on 3-11-2000 to expand the list of items of expenditure incurred by the Police eligible for reimbursement, which would include 50% of the POL cost, village guards, village defence committees and home guards. Rs. 104.85 crore has been released to the N.E. States under Security Related Expenditure.
11.	Modernisation of Police Force Scheme and its extension to Sikkim and additional reimbursement of Rs. 40 crore per annum for purchase of equipment for police modernization.	The proposal to extend the Modernisation of Police Force Scheme to Sikkim was approved in 2000-01. Rs. 69.42 crore was released during 2000-01 to all States of the North East under this scheme.

1	2	3
12.	Sanction of three India Reserve Battalion (IRB) for Tripura, Mizoram and Manipur (estimated expenditure for 3 IRBs for three years will be Rs. 45 crore).	Three India Reserve Battalions one each for Tripura (on 7-4-2000), Manipur (on 24-6-2000), and Mizoram (on 24-6-2000) were sanctioned by the Government of India.
13.	(a) Peace Bonus of Rs. 180 crore for Mizoram to tide over its financial problems.	Assistance (Peace Bonus) of Rs. 182.45 crore was sanctioned, and given as grant to Mizoram (as against Rs. 180 crore announced by the Prime Minister) during 2000-01.
	(b) Provision of an outlay of Rs. 50 crore every year from Non-lapsable Pool of Resources for five years for specific infrasturcture development projects of Mizoram.	Planning Commission sanctioned and released an amount of Rs. 56.15 crore during 1999-2000 from the Non-lapsable Central Pool of Resources. During 2000-01, an amount of Rs. 52.16 crore has been recommended for release from the Central Pool.
14.	Fencing of remaining portion of Indo-Bangladesh Border, and construction of roads with a total outlay of Rs. 1,335 crore and work to start in April, 2000.	On 23-5-2000, Government had approved the fencing of remaining portion of Indo-Bangladesh Border and construction of roads at a cost of Rs. 1335 crore. The work on fencing and roads has been started and Rs. 87.50 crore was provided during 2000-01. The budget provision during this year (2001-02) is Rs. 100 crore.
15.	Streamlining of procedure for selection of projects under Central Non-lapsable	In order to streamline the procedure for accruals to the Non-lapsable Central Pool of Resources, a budget "Head" has been

1	2	3
	Pool of Resources for North East and sanction of projects worth Rs. 500 crore and to build up infrastructure and take up economic development projects.	opened in the Demand for Grants of most of the Ministries/Departments. During 2000-01, amount of Rs. 313.04 crores was released from the Central Pool for the various projects in the North East and Sikkim.
16.	Implementation of Loktak Downstream Hydro Power Project (90 MW) in Manipur at a cost of Rs. 578 crore.	Loktak Down Stream Hydro Power Project (90 MW) in Manipur costing Rs. 578 crore has been sanctioned.
17.	Implementation of Teesta V Hydro Power Project (510 MW) in Sikkim at a cost of Rs. 2,198.04 crore.	Ministry of Power has reported that the project is proceeding as per schedule.
18.	Initiation of action to ensure that work on Subansiri Lower Side (600 MW) Hyde Power Project in Arunachal Pradesh commences by December, 2001. (Project cost is around Rs. 3,000 crore).	Subansiri Lower Side Hydel Power Project (600 MW), site has been transferred to NHPC. It has now been assessed that the revised capacity of the project will be 1200 MW and its cost would be around Rs. 5000 crore. Survey and Investigation of project has been started.
19.	Preparation and implementation of a scheme for rural electrification of 500 tribal villages in North East at a cost of around Rs. 30 crore.	Government approved a scheme on 23-3-2000 to electrify tribal villages and Harijan Bastics at a concessional loan at interest rate of 7.5% per annum. Initially 165 tribal villages have been selected in NE States.
20.	Additional assistance for implementation of ongoing	An amount of Rs. 52 crore from the Non-lapsable Central Pool of Resources for these

1	2	3
	critical, sub-critical transmission system at a cost of Rs. 239.92 crores.	works has been released during 2000-01.
21.	Civil Aviation :	
	(a) Provision of Aviation Turbine Fuel to small aircrafts at international prices.	The Government approved the proposal in January, 2000. A mechanism has been worked out for providing ATF at international price after mutual consultations between Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Civil Aviation. In pursuance of the decision taken in the Meeting of Committee of Secretaries on 19-4-2000, Secretary Ministry of Civil Aviation took a Meeting on 27-4-2000, with the State Governments, to obtain their consent to the proposal for declaring ATF for turboprop operation as
	(b) Treatment of Aviation Turbine Fuel for small aircrafts as declared good so as to reduce the level of sales tax of 4%.	"Declared Good" under the Central Sales Tax Act 1956.
	(c) No IATT for routes operated in the North Eastern States.	All routes within the NE States have been exempted from IATT with effect from 2-5-2000.
22.	Sanction of 8 road/bridge projects under NEC with the total outlay of Rs. 258.24 crore.	On 10-2-2000, eight road/bridge projects have been sanctioned under NEC plan with an outlay of Rs. 258.24 crore. Three more road projects costing Rs. 117.24 crore have been sanctioned.
23.	Provision of at least Rs. 100 crore for development of 12 new National Highways/ extension of existing highways covering a total length of 1,962 Km.	For upgradation of 12 new National Highway/extension of existing highways covering a total length of 1,962 Kms in the North East, Rs. 44.79 crore were spent by 31-3-2001. There is a provision of Rs. 71.29 crore for these schemes during this financial year.

1	2	3
24.	Programme to establish Computer Information Centre in all the 447 blocks in the seven North Eastern States and 40 blocks in Sikkim and completion of project in the next two years at a minimum cost of Rs. 100 crores.	30 Blocks have been provided Computer Information Centres (CICs) so far in North East at a cost of Rs. 15 crore during 2000-01. Project report costing Rs. 220 crore to connect all the remaining 457 Blocks has been prepared by Ministry of Information Technology. All blocks will be provided with CICs in 2 years under two phases. Rs. 67 crore have been allocated by the Planning Commission for the year 2001-02 for the project.
25.	Extension of the excise concession under the new industrial policy to the Numaligarh Refinery in Assam.	On 9-2-2000, the Ministry of Finance, Department of Revenue has issued notification extending full excise benefit to goods cleared from Numaligarh Refinery which will give annual benefits of Rs. 200 crore to the Refinery.
26.	To reform the Brahamputra Board and to make its functioning more effective and implementation of flood management schemes.	Chairman of the Board has been appointed, who took over charge on 16-2-2001. Board is taking action on the following :- (a) Preparation of Master Plan. (b) Investigation and preparation of DPR of identified drainage schemes. (c) Investigation and preparation of DPR for multipurpose Dam Project. (d) Execution of drainage schemes. (e) Implementation of Pagladiya Project.
27.	Sanction of Technology Mission for Horticulture in the current financial year with a total outlay of Rs. 262.50 crore over the next 3 years.	Government has approved the project proposal on 7-2-2001. Ministry of Agriculture has reviewed the progress of implementation of the schemes on 20-8-2001.

1	2	3
28.	Sanction of special programme for development of infrastructure and other facilities in the Bodo Autonomous Council (BAC) Areas with a total outlay of Rs. 30 crore per annum for three years.	A number of proposals (project/schemes) have been received from Bodo Autonomous Council (BAC) as well as from the Government of Assam for support out of the Non-lapsable Central Pool of Resources. DPRs received from the BAC/ Government of Assam were taken up for deliberation in the Meeting of the Committee (constituted to administer the Non-lapsable Central Pool of Resources) on 5-09-2000.

Arrest of Terrorists in Delhi and Kanpur

†*526. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that some terrorists have been arrested in Delhi and Kanpur, recently;

(b) if so, the number thereof and the details of the arms recovered from them;

(c) whether Government have taken any action against them, so far; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Eight persons—5 in Delhi and 3 in Kanpur—were arrested recently. Two Pistols, four Magazines, 30 Cartridges, one Country-made revolver, one Airgun and other explosive material and accessories were recovered at their instance.

(c) and (d) Cases under appropriate provisions of law have been registered by the Delhi Police and Government of Uttar Pradesh.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.